

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUAYAQ 00867 211655Z

46

ACTION ARA-10

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R 211430Z MAY 75
FM AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL
TO USODDOC WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY LIMA
SECSTATE WASHDC 3936

UNCLAS GUAYAQUIL 0867

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA, EC

SUBJ: VISIT OF MESSRS, FEFFER AND SCOTT

REF: USDOC 6690

1. MESSRS. FEFFER AND SCOTT NEVER SHOWED IN GUAYAQUIL AT CONSULATE GENERAL, OLYASA, OR PROGRAMA NACIONAL DEL ALGODON (PNA) OFFICES, NOR WERE WE ADVISED THEY WERE NOT COMING.

2. WE NORMALLY GIVE EXTRA ATTENTION TO BUSINESS VISITS ANNOUNCED THROUGH WASHINGTON, AND DETAILED ITINERARY IN REFTEL GAVE US IMPRESSION THAT FEFFER/SCOTT TRIP DEFINITELY ON. WE NOTIFIED OLYASA AND PNA OF VISIT AND TOOK INITIATIVE TO TENTATIVELY SCHEDULE THREE OTHER APPOINTMENTS. IT WAS THEREFORE SOMEWHAT EMBARRASSING WHEN THEY DID NOT COME.

3. THIS IS NOT FIRST CASE OF "NO-SHOWS" WE HAVE HAD IN PAST SEVERAL MONTHS. RESULT IS THAT WE NOW RATHER HESITANT TO ANNOUNCE OR OTHERWISE MAKE PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS FOR BUSINESS VISITORS WITHOUT REASONABLY SOLID ASSURANCE THEY COMING. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT CHANGES IN PLANS CAN HAPPEN, SOMETIMES ON SHORT NOTICE, IT IS AT LEAST COURTEOUS THING TO INFORM US IMMEDIATELY. OTHERWISE, IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL CONTACTS ARE MUCH LESS LIKELY TO SET ASIDE TIME FOR US IN THE FUTURE. IN SUBJECT CASE, IT WAS SECOND TIME THIS HAS HAPPENED RE PNA. THIS TIME PNA ENGINEER RODRIGO DAVILA HAD KEPT CALENDAR FREE MAY 7 AND 8 IN EXPECTATION OF VISIT.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 GUAYAQ 00867 211655Z

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE IF USDOC WOULD EMPHASIZE TO BUSINESSMEN REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FOR OVERSEAS TRIPS IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING POSTS INFORMED OF CHANGES OR CANCELLATIONS IN ITINERARY. OTHERWISE ONLY SOLUTION IS TO WAIT UNTIL VISITORS ACTUALLY ARRIVE BEFORE MAKING CONTACTS FOR THEM. ECUADOREANS HAVE GENERALLY GOOD IMPRESSION OF RELIABILITY OF AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN. WE WISH TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.

DEWITT

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